

Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 IGA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02

COME-00 OMB-01 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SWF-01 L-02 AGR-05

/046 W

----- 001773

R 271045Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 628

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

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PASS FAX/AMS/USDA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECRP, VS

SUBJECT: RICE SITREP FOR OCTOBER 1974 CERP 4012

REF: SAIGON 13538

1. SUMMARY. SHIPMENT OF THE 40,000 MT PL-480 RICE LOAN TO CAMBODIA IS VIRTUALLY COMPLETE WITH ONLY 150 MT REMAINING TO BE SHIPPED. APPARENT CONSUMPTION REMAINS LOW REFLECTING DIMINISHED REAL CONSUMPTION AND A CONTINUING DRAWDOWN ON CVN PRIVATE MERCHANT STOCKS. PADDY PRICES ARE UP WHILE MILLED RICE PRICES HAVE SLIPPED AGAIN.

2. END OCTOBER SAIGON AND CENTRAL VIETNAM STOCKS (1,000 MT)

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SAIGON IMPORTED 62.0

SAIGON DOMESTIC	36.5
SAIGON PRIVATE	15.6
DEFICIT PROVINCE	114.2
	228.3

3. OCTOBER APPARENT CONSUMPTION (1,000 MT)

BEGINNING STOCKS	242.6
DELTA DELIVERIES (ADJUSTED)	35.0
IMPORTS	0.0
TOTAL AVAILABLE	277.6
MINUS END OCTOBER STOCKS	228.3
MINUS CAMBODIA LOAN	17.8
OCTOBER APPARENT CONSUMPTION	31.5

4. AS OF OCTOBER 31, 27,900 MT OF THE 40,000 MT PL-480 RICE LOAN TO CAMBODIA HAD BEEN SHIPPED. AS OF NOVEMBER 22, ALL BUT 150 MT HAS BEEN SHIPPED.

5. REPORTED DELTA DELIVERIES FOR OCTOBER WERE ONLY 24,200 MT. THIS FIGURE IS ADJUSTED ABOVE TO 35,000 MT FOR REASONS OUTLINES IN PREVIOUS RICE SITREPS (REFTEL).

6. APPARENT DEFICIT AREA CONSUMPTION IS STILL LOW. THIS IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO DECLINING REAL CONSUMPTION IN DEFICIT AREAS AND A CONTINUING DRAWDOWN AGAINST CVN PRIVATE MERCHANT STOCKS (NOT COUNTED IN OUR STOCK FIGURES) WHICH WERE BUILT UP PRIOR TO MAY WHEN IT WAS RUMORED THAT INTEREST RATES FOR CVN MERCHANTS WOULD BE RAISED.

7. RESULTS OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (MOA)/USAID ASSISTED PILOT PROBABILITY AREA FRAME SURVEY (AFS), WHILE NOT CONCLUSIVE AND NOT COMPARABLE WITH FIGURES OBTAINED FROM DIFFERENT MEASUREMENT TECHNIQUES, INDICATE THAT TOTAL RICE HECTARAGE IN THE DELTA (MR-4 PLUS LONG AN PROVINCE) IS SOMEWHAT HIGHER THAN 73/74 CROP FIGURES PUBLISHED BY MOA. THE AFS FIGURES FOR TN HECTARAGE, THOUGH, ARE ONLY ABOUT HALF OF MOA PUBLISHED FIGURES ALTHOUGH CLOSER TO FIGURES USED INTERNALLY BY THE DIVISION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS (DAE).

8. MERCHANTS CONTINUE TO PREDICT A MAIN CROP ABOUT THE SAME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VOLUME AS LAST YEAR'S IF WEATHER AND SECURITY CONDITIONS DON'T DETERIORATE. SUCH A CROP WOULD HELP ENCOURAGE INCREASED DELTA DELIVERIES FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS SINCE ON-FARM STOCKS FROM THE 73/74 CROP ARE RELATIVELY HIGH, AND WILL HAVE TO BE SOLD OFF TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE NEWCROP.

9. PRICES

A. DELTA PADDY AT THE MILL (WEIGHTED AVERAGE PER 100 KILOS)

JAN 1 JUL 1 SEPT 1 OCT 1 NOV 1

HIGH QUALITY 10,042 12,604 14,224 13,372 14,849

MEDIUM QUALITY 9,209 12,153 13,134 12,592 13,110

B. SAIGON WHOLESALE RICE PRICES (100 KILOS)

JAN 1 JUL 8 SEPT 2 SEPT 30 OCT 14 OCT 28 NOV 18

NANG HUONG 23,000 22,800 24,000 23,600 23,800 23,200 23,300

SOC NAU 15,300 18,800 20,100 19,800 20,000 19,600 19,700

NO.1, 25PERCENT 14,700 18,100 19,000 18,800 19,100 18,700 18,700

MIRACLE RICE 14,200 17,700 18,200 17,900 18,300 18,000 17,900

C. SAIGON RETAIL RICE PRICES (100 KILOS)

JAN 1 JUL 8 SEPT 2 SEPT 30 OCT 14 OCT 28 NOV 18

NANG HUONG 24,800 24,800 25,500 24,500 25,000 24,500 24,500

SOC NAU 17,300 20,000 21,000 20,600 21,000 20,500 20,400

NO.1, 25PERCENT 16,500 18,800 19,600 19,500 19,900 19,200 19,000

U.S. MEDIUM 16,200 18,800 19,600 19,500 19,800 19,500 19,200

U.S.) LONG 17,200 19,800 20,500 20,500 20,600 20,500 20,500

10. FARMERS AND MERCHANTS ARE STARTING TO SELL DRY PADDY FROM THE 73-74 CROP AT HIGHER PRICES THAN TN PADDY HARVESTED DURING THE 1974 RAINY SEASON, MUCH OF WHICH WAS NOT PROPERLY DRIED. RICE DEALERS, HOWEVER, ARE STILL SELLING EARLY TN RICE AT PRICES WHICH HAVE DECLINED AGAIN AFTER A SHORT SPURT UPWARD IN MID-OCTOBER. DECON AFTER 12/31/75.

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